

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Iı	n Re the Application of:	) Group Art Unit: 3643
	Micke et al.	) Examiner:
S	erial No.: Not yet assigned	) FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
F	iled: Herewith	"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: EL 822581202 US DATE OF DEPOSIT: November 2, 2001
Atty. File No.: 3957-8-DIV		) I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER OR FEE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE "EXPRESS MAIL POS" OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" SERVICE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10 ON THE DATI INDICATED ABOVE AND IS ADDRESSED TO THE ASSISTAN"
F	or: "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REMOVING OBSTRUCTIONS IN MINES"	) COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.  ) TYPED OR PRINTED NAME: Angela P. Davis  ) SIGNATURE:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the initial review of the above-identified patent application by the Examiner, please enter the following Preliminary Amendment. Although Applicants do not believe that any fees are due based upon the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge any such fees to Deposit Account 19-1970.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

## **IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 4-12, with the following:

## CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a divisional application of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/173,876, filed October 16, 1998, and entitled "Method and Apparatus for Removing Obstructions in Mines",

